

Finally, the article states, "During the 1954 hearings before a special AEC Personnel Security Board which resulted in refusal to grant a security clearance to Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, his defense offered an affidavit from Killian. The latter noted that he had served with Oppenheimer on the Science Advisory Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization, and had attended some ten meetings of the group together with Oppenheimer.

"He impressed me in these meetings," said Killian of Oppenheimer, "as a man deeply devoted to strengthening the security of the nation, and fertile of ideas for promoting the national welfare. Every aspect of his work on this committee sustained my confidence in his loyal integrity."

The complete statement of Dr. Killian at the AEC hearings on Dr. Oppenheimer's security clearance status is as follows:

"I am President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. I am a member of the Science Advisory Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization, a committee in which both J. Robert Oppenheimer and I have been members since it was appointed by President Truman in 1951. I have attended about ten meetings of this committee at which Dr. Oppenheimer was present, including informal gatherings associated with these meetings. Once when the committee met in Princeton, the members of the committee dined at Dr. Oppenheimer's home.

"In the course of these meetings I have observed no action or suggestion on the part of Dr. Oppenheimer that seemed to me to be against the interest of the United States, or to give any support to the charges against him in General Nichols' letter. On the contrary, he impressed me in these meetings as a man deeply devoted to strengthening the security of the nation and fertile of ideas for promoting the national welfare. Every aspect of his work on this committee sustained my confidence in his loyalty and integrity.

"To my knowledge this committee never discussed the desirability of making hydrogen bombs. Certainly I never heard any statement by Dr. Oppenheimer that reflected opposition on his part to the decision that had been made by the Administration to go ahead on this development.

"I recall being with Dr. Oppenheimer on one or two occasions other than the meetings described above, and these meetings were casual or social. He came to M.I.T. in 1947 to deliver the Arthur D. Little Memorial Lecture. He gave this lecture before a large audience which seemed absorbed by his ideas and moved by his sincerity.

"Dr. Oppenheimer was a participant in the Summer Study Project of the M.I.T. Lincoln Laboratory in the summer of 1952. He was able to give the project only a very slight amount of time, as I recall, and I was not present at any of the meetings in which he participated. He did give a briefing to the group undertaking the study on the meaning of atomic warfare. The Summer Study Group made recommendations to the Department of Defense in regard to strengthening our defenses against air attack.

"An earlier project, known as Project Lexington, carried out by the Atomic Energy Commission under contract with M.I.T. sought information from Dr. Oppenheimer which has been described elsewhere by the director of this project, Professor Walter Whitman. No information I have about Dr. Oppenheimer's relationship to either of these projects has given me cause to question his integrity and loyalty."

The report published yesterday by the Panel on the Impact of the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy appointed by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy of Congress recommends modifications in atomic energy security which would do away with unnecessary secrecy and thus further the peaceful applications of the atom. This is an example of one of the things Dr. Killian had in mind in speaking of the importance of not permitting excessive security to hamper our scientific and technological progress.

It thus appears that the "ten meetings" which Dr. Killian attended with Mr. Oppenheimer were meetings which it was Dr. Killian's duty to attend as a member, appointed by President Truman, of the Committee. Also that he had observed no evidence of disloyalty in Mr. Oppenheimer was a fact which in truthfulness he cannot deny.

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